

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.       A method for sharing contact information, comprising:  
2           storing a user's contact information in a database accessible over a network;  
3           receiving identification from a user of a person to authorize for access the user's  
4           contact information;  
5           enabling the person to access the user's contact information; and  
6           transmitting the user's contact information to a computing device of the  
7           authorized person from the database via the network in response to a request for this  
8           information.
- 1           2.       The method of claim 1, wherein the step of storing the user's contact  
2           information comprises storing the user's contact information on a network server  
3           accessible through the network that is used as a central repository of contacts information.
- 1           3.       The method of claim 2, wherein the network comprises the Internet.
- 1           4.       The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving identification  
2           comprises receiving one of the person's email address.

1           5.       The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling the person to access  
2       the user's contact information comprises adding the person's identity to an approved list  
3       associated with the user's contact information.

1           6.       The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving an  
2       indication from the user as to what pieces of contact information to make accessible to  
3       the authorized person.

1           7.       The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of revoking a person's  
2       access to the user's contact information in response to the user's request to revoke the  
3       access.

1           8.       A method for sharing contact information, comprising:  
2       receiving a user's identification that conveys the user's authorization to access  
3       contact information;  
4       receiving a request to view contact information;  
5       retrieving the requested contact information from a remote database via a  
6       network; and  
7       presenting the contact information to the user.

1           9.     The method of claim 8, wherein the step of receiving a request to view  
2     contact information comprises receiving a request from a remote computing device via  
3     the network.

1           10.    The method of claim 8, wherein the step of retrieving the requested  
2     contact information comprises retrieving the contact information from a network server  
3     accessible through the network that is used as a central repository of contacts information.

1           11.    The method of claim 10, wherein the network is the Internet.

1           12.    The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of storing the retrieved  
2     contact information in a local database.

1           13.    The method of claim 8, wherein the step of displaying the contact  
2     information comprises displaying the contact information to the user with a computing  
3     device.

1           14.     A method for sharing contact information, comprising:  
2           storing a user's contact information in a web server accessible via the Internet;  
3           receiving from the user an identification of one or more persons that the user  
4           authorizes to access the user's contact information;  
5           receiving identification of what pieces of contact information to share with each  
6           authorized person;  
7           receiving a request from a person to view the user's contact information;  
8           verifying authorization of the person to view the user's contact information and  
9           the level of access for which the person is approved; and  
10          transmitting appropriate contact information to the person.

1           15.     A system for sharing contact information, comprising:  
2           means for storing a user's contact information in a location accessible over a  
3           network;  
4           means for receiving an identification of one or more persons that a user authorizes  
5           to access the user's contact information;  
6           means for enabling the persons to access to the user's contact information; and  
7           means for transmitting the user's contact information to a computing devices of  
8           the authorized persons from the database in response to requests for this information.

1           16.    The system of claim 15, further comprising the means for receiving an  
2    indication from the user as to what pieces of contact information to make accessible to  
3    the persons.

1           17.    The system of claim 15, further comprising means for revoking a person's  
2    access to the user's contact information.

1           18.    A system for sharing contact information, comprising:  
2           means for verifying a user's authorization to access contact information;  
3           means for receiving a request to view contact information;  
4           means for retrieving the requested contact information from a remote database  
5    accessible via a network; and  
6           means for presenting the contact information to the user.

1           19.    The system of claim 18, wherein the means for receiving a request  
2    comprises a link to the contact information on the network.

1           20.    The system of claim 18, wherein the means for retrieving the requested  
2    contact information comprises network interface devices adapted to retrieve the contact  
3    information from a web server connected to the Internet.